

**DISC DRIVE SUSPENSION OPTIMIZED FOR PRELOAD BEND DAMPER****ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE**

A suspension for supporting a transducer in a data storage system includes a  
5 longitudinal axis, a proximal mounting section, and first and second opposing side  
edges. The suspension includes a rigid load beam section that extends longitudinally  
along the longitudinal axis. A flexible section is located between the proximal  
mounting section and the rigid load beam section. The flexible section has a preload  
bend transverse the longitudinal axis and a peak strain region located between the  
10 preload bend and the rigid load beam section. A damper covers a portion of the peak  
strain region.